6/17/72

Dear Gary,

Howard, who has been here all week, and Walter and his wife, who arrived with her infant grandchild about 2:30 a.m., having been delayed by a bad storm, are still asleep. Until someone awakens, I have time for this brief note. Ross and I have a joint project that will keep me busy while they are here. I'll be taking Howard to the bus and I am quite fond of Walter, who has also been a very good friend to me.

Ross was up Wednesday. He is a case where Ned slipped, not knowing that Ross and I knew each other. They had a chance encounter some time back in which Ned blabbed quite a bit about his seeking Burke Marshall out, what each said, etc. This did not happen until I was taking him to the bus station Wednesday night. That is, Ross did not mention that conversation. I told him immediately that I wanted him to make a full record of the conversation because it leaves without any possibility of doubt that Ned had done precisely what he had contracted and promised not to do, used my material. Ross was a bit concerned, it turned out, and spoke to Howard while I was in the bus station to learn about the delay in his bus. Howard told him that I planned no action, as I had said, but that I had legitimate personal interests to protect and those of all the critical community, that great mischief was one of the potentials of what Ned is up to. I learned this while Howard and I were driving home. I had asked Ross, when he could, to see you and go into all of it with you and to learn from you about Ned what I felt it would be both prejudicial and unfair of me to explain. I do think you should extract from Ross that the meaning of which may be lost upon him. I hope we never need it for everyone's purposes or that I never do for my added selfish ones.

It seems that there are those who, beginning with Ned, have been building a mythology that I am being selfish about my material, that I ought to be giving it all away for the common good, etc. The pieces are filling in despite the intent of those so involved that it not get back to me.

Howard, who was remarkably mature and responsible for his years, has grown even more during this past semester (and also earned a remarkable scholastic avergae), without tell me, went to my Ned file when he finished working of the files in which he was. After going over the beginning, he was even more shocked. I have not looked at those early exchanges for I have neither need nor desire. But Howard was curious. He knows he has free access to everything except the very few that are marked confidential. He says that after reading the terms of the original agreement as proposed by Ned and the subsequent counter-proposals and my responses he is even more shocked at Ned's subsequent conduct and acts.

I decided, with the appearance of the Pentagon paper , to omit the Vietnam part of Tiger when I get to it. That is, the early-days part. Prior to this I had loaned Howard several large cardboxes of these files. He works on what he didn't taken when he is here, this time getting into some of the German part. He is finding my contemporaneous notes fascinating and is learning that is one can avoid having to wear the blinders one ca see in directions in which his head is not pointed by forces he doesn't control. It appears, from his kind comments about files I haven't looked at since 1964-5, that all my spot analyses were accurate and ahead of others. Makes me feel good.

Jerry says you are going to Europe with him in August. Great! Good for you and if it is anything like he described of his last year's visit, you have a real joy ahead. Let me prepare you for one thing: Jerry is not yet housebroken and has a way of quietly insisting on his way not with words but by doing what eliminates alternatives. Be patient with it if you encounter it on the trip. It is not a conscious thing with him and he really is a very fine guy, in some ways a little immature, one of the most decent you will ever meet. It may be that there will be no occasion for this to show, but if it does, don't be surprised or disappointed. It is just the may he grew in a broken home and a consequence of early independence.He never means to deny others their rights. And I think a couple of weeks of undetected professional observation of him may at some time help Jerry to mature in these narrow areas where he hasn't. Your trip coincides with the first time Ross thought he might get to see you, so this brief fill-in if it turns out to be the case. Have a good time, come back refreshed and rested. Our best,